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MAYOR JERRY SANDERS

FACT SHEET

SANDERS: ‘CHOICE FOR SAN DIEGO IS CLEAR’

Impasse Hearing Will Determine Service Levels in 2010 and Beyond

Mayor Jerry Sanders was joined by library supporters and community members at the Ocean Beach Branch Library today to lay out the stakes in this afternoon’s labor impasse hearing before City Council.

To address a \$60 million deficit, the mayor’s proposed budget for fiscal year 2010 includes a 6 percent reduction in the overall compensation of the city’s approximately 10,500 employees. This will be achieved through wage reductions as well as decreasing the portion the city covers of employee health care, retirement and other employment benefits.

Without those compensation concessions, however, about \$30 million in savings will have to come from job and service cuts.

“The choice for San Diego is clear,” Sanders said. “The only way for the City Council to avoid wage cuts is to cut city services. That means settling for less coverage from our police and fire departments. It means fewer recreation leaders and fewer librarians.”

The city has been in negotiations since January on new contracts with its five labor unions: Police Officers Association, the International Association of Firefighters Local 145, the Municipal Employees Association, the Deputy City Attorneys Association and the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees Local 127.

The city and the unions reached impasse last week; the City Council is expected to conduct an impasse hearing today at which they can impose the necessary concessions to maintain city services.

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